Vote No. 394

August 11, 1995, 10:12 a.m. Page S-12322 Temp. Record

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS/Kiowa Warrior Helicopter

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1996 . . . S. 1087. Stevens motion to table the Harkin amendment No. 2400.

ACTION: MOTION TO TABLE AGREED TO, 64-35

SYNOPSIS: As reported, S. 1087, the Department of Defense Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1996, will appropriate \$242.7 billion for the military functions of the Department of Defense for fiscal year 1996, which is \$6.4 billion more than requested and \$2.3 billion less than the fiscal year (FY) 1995 funding level.

The Harkin amendment would cut funding by \$125 million for Aircraft Procurement, Army, with the intention of eliminating funding to purchase and to upgrade Kiowa Warrior light scout helicopters.

Debate was limited by unanimous consent. Following debate, Senator Stevens moved to table the Harkin amendment. Generally, those favoring the motion to table opposed the amendment; those opposing the motion to table favored the amendment.

Those favoring the motion to table contended:

We added the \$125 million in funding for the Kiowa Warrior helicopter because the Army told us that it was its most critical unfunded aviation priority. The funding will make the helicopter night- and armed-reconnaissance capable, and it will give it the ability to be converted to a medical evacuation helicopter for night use while it is armed. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) do not have and will not have all these capabilities. We therefore urge the rejection of the Harkin amendment.

Those opposing the motion to table contended:

The armed Kiowa Warrior helicopter is used for light attack and reconnaissance. It has a two-man crew, and is used in missions by itself or, more commonly, with Apache helicopters. Its basic frame was first designed in 1968, and it has served admirably over

(See other side)

YEAS (64)			NAYS (35)			NOT VOTING (1)	
Republicans Democrats (53 or 98%) (11 or 24%)		Republicans	Der	Democrats		Democrats	
		(11 or 24%)	(1 or 2%)	(34 or 76%)		(0)	(1)
Abraham Ashcroft Bennett Bond Brown Burns Campbell Chafee Coats Cochran Cohen Coverdell Craig D'Amato DeWine Dole Domenici Faircloth Frist Gorton Gramm Gramm Grams Grassley Gregg Hatch Helms	Hutchison Inhofe Jeffords Kassebaum Kempthorne Kyl Lott Lugar Mack McCain McConnell Murkowski Nickles Packwood Pressler Roth Santorum Shelby Simpson Smith Snowe Specter Stevens Thomas Thompson Thurmond Warner	Boxer Breaux Feinstein Ford Glenn Heflin Hollings Inouye Johnston Lieberman Pell	Hatfield	Akaka Baucus Biden Bingaman Bryan Bumpers Byrd Conrad Daschle Dodd Dorgan Exon Feingold Graham Harkin Kennedy Kerrey	Kerry Kohl Lautenberg Leahy Levin Mikulski Moseley-Braun Moynihan Murray Nunn Pryor Reid Robb Rockefeller Sarbanes Simon Wellstone	EXPLANAT 1—Official I 2—Necessar 3—Illness 4—Other SYMBOLS: AY—Annou AN—Annou PY—Paired PN—Paired	nced Yea nced Nay Yea

VOTE NO. 394 AUGUST 11, 1995

the years, but its technology is dated. The main use for Kiowa helicopters is now reconnaissance, not fighting. We can stretch the technology for new uses, as our colleagues suggest, but it is really expensive to try to make old designs fit modern requirements. The trend in scout flights is to use UAV technology, which is both cheaper and obviously does not risk the lives of pilots. With this background, this bill's \$125 million increase in funding for 20 additional Kiowa Warrior helicopters is unjustified. Each helicopter will cost over \$6 million. In contrast, we could buy Hunter UAVs for \$2.5 million each. We do not believe this appropriation for Kiowa helicopters makes sense, so we urge our colleagues to join us in opposing the motion to table the Harkin amendment.